

STETSON UNIVERSITY

Gillespie Museum January-February 2020

Stetson University Gillespie Museum

234 E. Michigan Ave., DeLand, Florida 32723

Days and hours: Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Phone: 386-822-7330

Website: <https://www.stetson.edu/other/gillespie-museum/>

All events at the Gillespie Museum are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.

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January-May 2020

“Agatized Coral and Other Silicified Fossils of Florida” Exhibit

Dates: Sept. 24, 2019-May 6, 2020

This exhibition, from the personal collection of Sam Upchurch, PhD, and Gary Maddox of Apalachee Minerals, provides an opportunity to view fine specimens of agatized coral. A mineralized fossil, agatized coral was chosen by the state legislature in 1979 as Florida’s state rock. It is a variety of fine-grained crystalline quartz, which can be found in several areas in the state, and is highly sought after by collectors.

“The Minerals of Mexico” Exhibit

Dates: Oct. 8, 2019-Jan. 31, 2020

“The Minerals of Mexico” is an exhibit of specimens collected by museum benefactors Thomas Byrd and Nellie Gillespie, which focuses on their trips to Mexico during the early 1960s and the methods in building the historic Gillespie collection.

“Florida Stewards” Exhibit

Dates: Jan. 16-March 13, 2020

Opening-night reception: Thursday, Jan. 16, 6-8 p.m.

Location: Rinker Environmental Learning Center, 230 E. Michigan Ave., DeLand, Florida 32723

Environmental educator and photographer Dustin Angell of the Archbold Biological Station will discuss his portraits and documentary work on Florida ecologists and offer tips on how others can participate in the conservation photography movement in the United States. The photography exhibit will be on display in the Rinker Environmental Learning Center's environmental gallery, which is adjacent to the Gillespie Museum.

Science Café: The Ecology of Port Royal Sound
Wednesday, Feb. 5, 7-8:30 p.m.

The Port Royal Sound watershed is part of the South Atlantic Bight salt marsh ecosystem and stands out due to its relatively pristine condition and healthy marine habitat. Unique conditions found only in the Port Royal Sound promote a high productivity and biodiversity. Join environmental educator Kristen Marshall Mattson to learn what makes this area distinct and hear stories of some of the most important species that reside there.

Science Saturday: We Love Rocks and Minerals
Saturday, February 8, 10 a.m.-noon

Get ready for Valentine's Day with a celebration of gems and other precious stones. Young scientists will have an opportunity to participate in a scavenger hunt through the museum's exhibit "Storied Stone." Visitors will have an opportunity to create gifts and cards during a workshop.

Science Café: Florida's Own Gems, Agatized Fossil Corals
Thursday, February 27, 7-8:30 p.m.

The museum's current exhibition, "Agatized Coral and Other Silicified Fossils of Florida," features the personal collections of Sam Upchurch, PhD, and Gary Maddox, Apalachee Minerals. Agatized coral is a mineralized fossil that was chosen by the state legislature in 1979 as Florida's state rock. As specialists in Florida geology and karst systems, Upchurch and Maddox have collected specimens for decades. The duo will be conducting a discussion about collecting and understanding the geological history that created these rare mineral specimens.